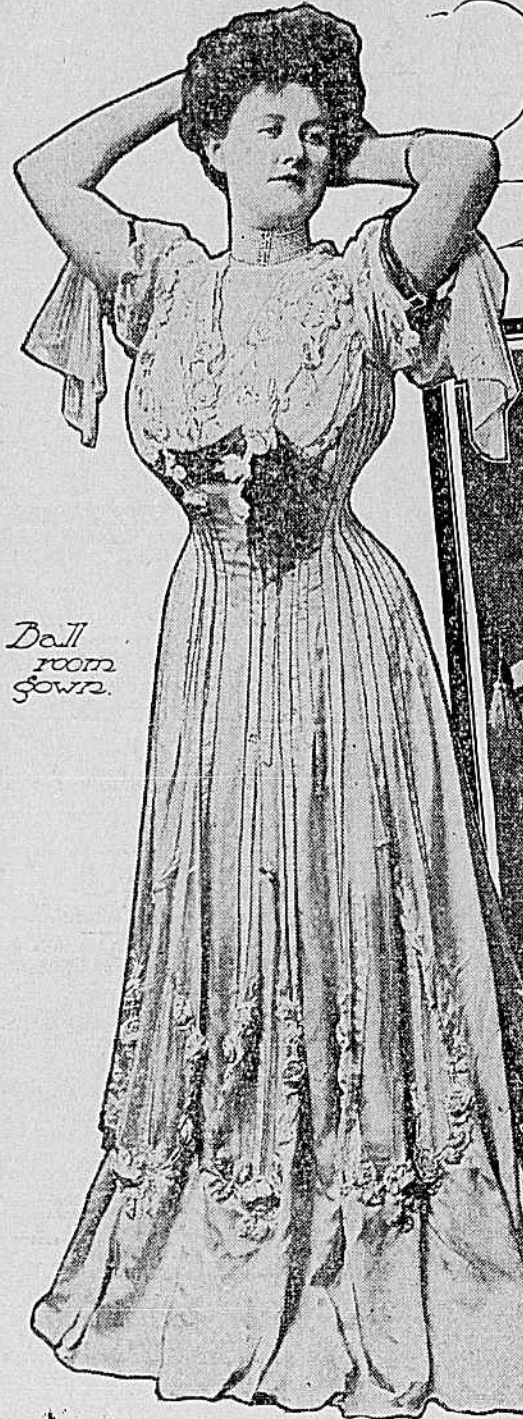


THE LATEST FASHIONS

MIDWINTER MODES under southern skies



Ball room gown.



This model is a reigning favorite.



Latest development in shirt and sleeves



Down of Shanghai silk with dress set marabout

Social Life at the American Riviera - Outing Togs for the Sporting Set - Radical Changes in Costumes and Millinery - A Distinctive New Separate Coat.

One shivers just a little bit more and instinctively wraps soft furs just a little closer in these sharp winter days when passing shop windows filled with summer millinery, and all sorts of dainty warm weather frocks, and months in advance of the fashion season? To attract trade at a time when the fashionable set are flitting southward to Pinehurst, Palm Beach, Miami and other resorts in that latitude where the rigors of a Northern winter are unknown.

Harbingers of Spring.

Fashions displayed at this time are looked upon as forerunners of the springtime. In fact, many a Southern wardrobe will be brought back North at the end of the season, renovated and worn with assurance that nothing more fashionable or higher in style could be found in the latest, or rather the newest, spring models in costume and millinery.

This opening of the new season so soon after the closing of the old year and the beginning of the new has its advantages, even for the stay-at-homes, for one may select the spring wardrobe from these early harbingers with a feeling of greatest surety and be prepared for the first spring days, that steal into the closing weeks of winter.

Southern Wardrobes.

The Southern sojourner's wardrobe is more or less elaborate, according to one's social position and stopping place. If the six weeks' sojourn is made at a fashionable hotel one's time is divided mainly between outdoor sports and the ballroom. Mornings are given over to tennis, golf and long woodland tramps in short skirts, stout footwear, comfortable sweaters and jaunty headgear. It is not fashionable any longer to go about with uncovered head away from the hotel veranda, even though the sunlight is known to work wonders with the complexion. So the debutante wears a coquettish tam o'shanter of the worsted, and her matron sister a small, simple outing hat, youthful, but more dignified than the schoolgirl's tam.

Motoring in the Southland.

Motoring is part of the day's schedule everywhere. Those who do not fancy the exhilarating sport of chasing a ball over the green sward of the golf links, or the excitement of a game of tennis, set out immediately after breakfast for a spin, returning to the hotel in time for lunch.

con, or enjoying this midday repast from the motor hamper along the road.

Motor togs for these temperate climes are such as we wear at home in the summer and late spring. The clumsy fur garments are not needed below the Mason and Dixon line. A lightweight worsted or heavy silk garment of motor is ample protection, with a simple light-weight worsted or mohair frock in some practical color that will not show the soil of travel.

The White Serges.

White serge is immensely popular in two-piece tailored suits, with short skirts, pleated or gored, and jaunty, semi-fitting jackets, with a button down the front, and a small pocket on the lower button. In some of these coats the Japanese sleeves is a part of the coat body, but it is so modified and diminished in size from the costume model as to make it quite practical in a tailored garment. Suits of this description, with dainty lingerie blouses finely tucked and much inset with laces and fine embroidery, and natty tailored headgear are for afternoon outdoor wear.

Advance Millinery.

The new millinery, by the way, is small, quite diminutive compared with the exaggerated mushrooms and chopping bows of the winter. Many of the shapes look like brimless crowns and where a shape does boast a brim it is decidedly narrow. And brims turn up instead of down. All this applies to tailored effects. Some shapes droop over the forehead in the back, but this is about the only suggestion of the mushrooms so far. Another important feature of the millinery situation is the abundance of trimming with laces and much inset with laces and fine embroidery, and natty tailored headgear are for afternoon outdoor wear.

Marabout Trimmings and Accessories.

Marabout is a fashionable hat trimming. A pretty idea is to have the hat trimming match the marabout scarf.

and muff. This pertains to the practical blacks and browns and greys for street wear rather than the lighter tones for evening.

Radical Costume Changes.

While hats have grown smaller, equally radical changes have taken place in costumes. The short sleeves is no longer considered high style in anything but evening frocks, and here it is often a mere suggestion of an arm covering. One counters use three bands of crushed mullinette over the top of the arm and calls the arrangement a sleeve. Draped effects are very much used in evening toilettes. There may be a small puff of the dress material as a means of shaping the shoulder lines to the proper fashionable proportions and angles, but this is well-hidden by the scarf ends of lace drapery which depend to a length anywhere from the elbow to the knees.

A costume to be worn by a certain young society matron at Palm Beach shows this artistic sleeve drapery. The gown is a princess of softest white chiffon, the kind that costs \$3 and \$4 the yard, and chiffon, which latter material is a foundation for the narrow ribbon-like strapping of satin, edged with silver sequins running from the decolletage to the top of the foot flounce. Wreaths of satin roses are applied to the skirt below the knees and several inches over the top of the flounce. Though the bodice is cut quite low, the neck is filled in with a white Brussels lace scarf, so that the decolletage is a shallow point front and back.

Floral appliques garland the fronts from the shoulders to the bustline, where the ends hold in place a drapery of black mullinette. The tiny puff sleeves of satin are gathered into a narrow band, swathed with the black net finishing on top of the arm with a bow centered with a small brilliant buckle. The ends of the lace scarf, cut to fill in the neck, are employed as the sleeve drapery, which depends almost to the wrist from the back of the arm. This touch of black on an otherwise one-toned gown is another adaptation of French fashions, and one which gives character to many of the new costume models.

Two New Style Features.

Two of the most important style features of the later modes are combined

in a dressy costume intended for luncheons, afternoon teas and bridge. These are the long sleeves and the tunic skirt. The material of the gown is a reseda green marquisette, developed over white tulle. The tunic or overskirt is only simulated, but it is cleverly accomplished. The skirt is gathered full at the waist and weighted with three deep foot tucks. Above this set on in pointed overskirt lines is a founce of dyed green pailletted lace, faced and headed with a band of the marquisette. The bodice is an elaborately embroidered jumper, with round neck and cape sleeves of the spangled lace over the long wrinkled sleeves of spotted white net. These are so long as to cover the knuckles. They are pointed on the top of the hand and finished with lace edging. The gumples is of flit, with Venise appliques.

A Novel Coat.

A coat which its owner intends to accompany this green costume is of black cloth, with white cloth lap sleeves, heavily braided with black soutache. The body of the coat, which is semi-directoire, with a Napoleon collar of braided velvet, is braided as elaborately as the sleeves. These sleeves are a distinctive departure from present modes, but unusual as the garment is, there is nothing bizarre about it, as one might imagine.

Evening Wraps.

We have worn such lightweight evening wraps in the stormy North this winter that the Southern traveler will, in many instances, make her burlesque mantle or Japanese cloak of softest cloth or richest satin serve the winter out in the sunny South. There is nothing particularly new in evening coats, so that one may practice this bit of economy without hesitancy.

The Revival of the Scarf.

Nearly every country in the world contributes in some detail to the beauty of the fashionable costume as ordained by the powers that hold high court in Paris and Vienna, London and New York. From Japan we have acquired the long shoulder and drooping sleeve of the kimono, but instead of placing the obi accompaniment of that graceful garment about the waist, the sash, in the shape of a scarf, is employed alike for the neck, the head and the shoulders, so manifold are its possibilities.

The value of a scarf as a feminine costume accessory is so obvious that most women deem it necessary to have any where from two to a dozen, as they are worn for morning, afternoon and evening by the schoolgirl.

"Standing with reluctant feet Where womanhood and childhood meet."

her elder sister and her mother. Even the grandmother resurrects long shawls she wore 50 years ago and rechristens them scarfs.

As the time approaches for furs to be discarded more scarfs than ever will be worn with the dust-toned wool, rainabout coat and skirt suits, and for these such soft, flexible silks as China and Japanese crepes will be used in pastel blues and green, French pinks and the orchid shades which blend so well with most deep colors. These morning accessories are necessarily simply finished, usually with an inch-wide hemstitched border or with a feather-stitched hem. The material is inexpensive and may be readily manipulated by any neat needlewoman. It being a fancy to have such scarfs match the color scheme of the hat, it is safe to prophesy that most industrious

girls will have several of them.

Scarfs will play a prominent role in the costume designed for the bridesmaids at spring weddings, especially when Henry and Gainsborough picture effects are sought. They will naturally be fluffy affairs of chiffon, edged all round with marabout or ostrich feathers, or with sprays of spring flowers to match the trimmings of the wide brimmed gauzy hats.

The woman who had a thrifty grandmother so careful of her precious Canton crepe shawl that she rarely wore it when shawls were the fashion may rejoice exceedingly, for never were those marvelous products of the Orient more in demand and so difficult to obtain as now. So long and wide are some of these heirlooms that they may be used as wrap and head covering, and if slightly ivory-tinted by age so much the better. There are possibilities, too, in those gauzy silken fabrics brought years ago from the Philippines. These are striped affairs in faint shades of rose, blue, green and maize that are very effective with black gowns, and, being wide, they require merely a hemstitched border as a finish.

Remnants of Paisley and India shawls that have long been deemed worthless and only preserved from sentiment may now be utilized by cutting the design from the cashmere and appliqueing it upon any soft, fine silken material. A most striking combination evening wrap and head-covering of this character was developed by appliqueing the border of a Paisley shawl upon white messaline with gold thread.

Among the simplest and at the same time the daintiest of the evening scarfs are those of crepe de chine, chiffon and China silk, which are seen in white and every delicate tint. They are wide enough in most instances to cover the head and shoulders and are finished with narrow side hems and wide ends, feather-stitched. Any of these pale tints, soft fabrics are wonderfully becoming when draped about the face and neck, but to be effective their ends should be lightly hand-painted in pale, delicate tints. Many girls do this by stretching the material upon a curtain frame and painting the ends in clusters of orchids, field flowers or Delft designs, or, if very expert and daring, Japanese tea garden scenes similar to those on the oriental embroidered satin opera cloaks now so much in vogue.

The mantilla, without which no well-bred Castilian beauty would dream of going to church, will be used by her

American sister for more frivolous purposes. She will adopt the heavy black lace scarf as a neck-dressing accompaniment with her street and dinner toilettes, and doubtless find it of infinite service next summer for evening drives.

Southern scarfs are far and away the most fascinating of any offered to tempt a woman from the path of economy into one of reckless extravagance. These head coverings are marvels of beauty and handwork, and veritably worth their weight in gold. On a foundation of netted silk several degrees heavier than flannel are rivetted gold or silver bullion strips, hence the reason for selling them by weight. Because it is so difficult to decide which of the several kinds of these Southern scarfs is the more beautiful, most women hesitate between those of black, embroidered with gold, and those of white, embellished with silver. From an economical standpoint these scarfs are the cheapest of all those included in the costly class, as they accord with any type of costume, and so strong is the silk netting and so thorough the handwork that they will endure more wear than materials which seem much more substantial.

White scarfs that lend a girl the air of a convent novice are those of soft, white twilled silk, finished with a two-inch-wide hem and ends embroidered heavily in white silk. These are inexpensive and tremendously becoming to youthful faces. They may be cleaned by folding them in magnesium and flour, which will absorb the soil of several wearings. All white scarfs, whether of chiffon, crepe de chine or silk, should be wrapped in blue paper whenever laid away, lest they lose their snowy tint.

White embroidered net scarfs may be treated similarly, but are much easier to care for, as they do not soil readily, and in case they require laundering need only be dipped in hot water and Castile soap and stretched over a frame to dry. Again the heirloom becomes of immediate value as an accessory, for no scarf could possibly be more beautiful than are those of Brussels, duchesse and point de Venise. Two narrow flounces may be joined by a narrow lace insertion, a broad flounce may have a border sewn on its upper edge or the remnants of one applied upon the net. The correct length for an evening scarf, in a class which includes the Soudanese, the embroidered silks and the needle laces, is two yards, while those intended for less ceremonious occasions are from a yard to two yards in length.



An outgrowth of the jumper idea

The Little Known High Caste Chinese Lady.

The Chinese woman is domestic, home is her sphere, she finds interest and delight in such simple occupations as sewing, worshipping her ancestors, and playing games with her children. No wave of revolt has power to touch her reverence and respect for her lord and master.

She has no ambition to prove herself man's equal, no desire to be anything but the weaker vessel she is quite content to remain at home for days and weeks and even months at a stretch. Her tiny feet are not meant for "gadding about" in search of pleasure or amusement.

The high-caste Chinese lady is dressed, perhaps, more richly than any other woman in the world. Even her tiny shoes are exquisitely made: she takes both pride and delight in her "golden Lily" feet. She can scarcely toddle without help. But liberty of movement is a small matter compared with the possession of diminutive feet in shoes of solid gold.

The "lily foot" consists of the great toes encased in a silver or three inches long. The other toes have been dislocated backwards to lie closely under the foot. When a Chinese girl is about six or eight years of age, she is visited by the foot binder, whose profession it is to produce this anatomical distortion so much admired by the better class of Chinese.

The toes are gradually forced under the foot, which is encased by strips of especially made cotton cloth, and these are kept on for several weeks at a stretch, being removed only to allow kneading of the joints to make them more pliable.

The pain is excruciating, and there is considerable swelling of the leg and foot in the first instance. Later, huge corns appear as a result of pressure, and it is remarkable that disease of the bones and nerves is not more common. The wrappings are finely embroidered, and the little shoes made of silk or satin elaborately stitched in rich colors.

The smaller the foot the better the prospects from a matrimonial point of view of the Chinese maiden. A Chinese girl is sometimes, however, betrothed as a mere baby and should the man die before the marriage takes place, she is considered a "widow." She cannot marry again without losing caste, but she may adopt a son if she likes.

A widow is not allowed to rouge or powder; she can only wear half mourning, which in China is symbolized by blue or violet shades, for the rest of her natural life.

When she dies, if she has been faithful to the memory of her husband, or betrothed, she is rewarded with a magnificent funeral and has monuments and arches erected in her honor. All over China, the greatest compliment you can pay a Chinese woman is to assure her that she looks ten years older than her actual age. Trained from babyhood to hide all emotion, the women lead the simple life as a matter of course; their placid, quiet, unlined, untroubled faces give them an appearance of youth till advanced years, when they seem suddenly to shrivel up into old women.

The better class of Chinese women are exquisitely dressed in richly embroidered silk, several skirts of different colors being worn one above the other. Hair-dressing is a fine art in China, and in no country in the world are there such varied fashions and styles. Each district has its approved coiffure, but one and all affect elaborate ornaments of silver or enamel and artificial flowers, which show in strong contrast the glossy black hair.

The "marriage crown" is as magnificent as money and Chinese taste can produce, and a marriage is a great occasion for display and pomp in China. The bride, attired in scarlet and gold, with a wedding veil of crimson silk, is carried in a golden sedan chair, which is usually hired for the occasion. Red is the luckiest color in China, and is introduced as much as possible at this time. The presents are carried in large red boxes, or on red lacquered trays; red candles and banners bring luck to the bridal pair; and in the home, scarlet cushions and covers and hangings are brought out for the occasion. The bride may have been purchased like a bale of silk, she may never have seen her husband's face, and she must obey and wait upon and serve her lord for the rest of her natural life.